

1863

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF DARTMOUTH COLLEGE,

JULY 24, 1863,

UPON THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE MERRIMACK COUNTY CONFERENCE
OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES, IN REFERENCE TO THE
PRESIDENT OF SAID COLLEGE, PASSED AT THEIR
SESSION, JUNE 23 AND 24, 1863.

CONCORD:
PRINTED BY MCFARLAND & JENKS.
1863.

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TRUSTEES OF DARTMOUTH COLLEGE.

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| REV. NATHAN LORD, D. D., PRESIDENT, | <i>Hanover.</i> |
| HIS EXCELLENCY, JOSEPH A. GILMORE,* | |
| | <i>Ex Officio, Concord.</i> |
| REV. ZEDEKIAH S. BARSTOW, D. D., | <i>Keene.</i> |
| LYNDON A. MARSH, Esq., | <i>Woodstock, Vt.</i> |
| HON. GEORGE W. NESMITH, | <i>Franklin.</i> |
| REV. NATHANIEL BOUTON, D. D., | <i>Concord.</i> |
| REV. SAMUEL DELANO, | <i>Strafford, Vt.</i> |
| HON. IRA A. EASTMAN, LL. D., | <i>Concord.</i> |
| HON. AMOS TUCK, | <i>Exeter.</i> |
| HON. ANTHONY COLBY,* | <i>New-London.</i> |
| HON. JOHN W. NOYES, | <i>Chester.</i> |
| HON. JOHN W. SANBORN, | <i>Wakefield.</i> |
| HON. OLIVER PILLSBURY, | <i>Henniker.</i> |
| HON. CHARLES H. EASTMAN, | <i>Claremont</i> |
| HON. LEVI PARKER, | <i>Lisbon.</i> |
| HON. ONSLOW STEARNS, | |
| | <i>President of the Senate.</i> |
| HON. WILLIAM E. CHANDLER, | |
| <i>Speaker of the House of Representatives,</i> | |
| HON. SAMUEL D. BELL, | |
| <i>Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court,</i> | |
| | <i>Concord.</i> |
| | <i>Concord.</i> |
| | <i>Manchester.</i> |

EX-OFFICIO IN RELATION TO FUNDS
OF THE COUNCIL
GIVEN BY THE STATE.

VISITORS OF THE CHANDLER SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL.

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| JOHN JAMES DIXWELL, Esq., A. M., | <i>Boston, Mass.</i> |
| FRANCIS BROWN HAYES, Esq., A. M., | <i>Boston, Mass.</i> |

HON. DANIEL BLAISDELL, TREASURER, *Hanover.*

* Messrs. GILMORE and COLBY were absent from the meetings of the Board, July, 1863.

PROCEEDINGS.

At a meeting of the Trustees of Dartmouth College, held at Hanover on the 23d day of July, 1863, the following resolutions of the Merrimack County Conference of Congregational Churches, unanimously adopted at their session on the 23d and 24th of June, 1863, were brought before the Board for their consideration :—

Resolved, That the people of New-Hampshire have the strongest desire for the prosperity of Dartmouth College, and that they rejoice in the wide influence this noble institution has exerted in the cause of education and religion.

Resolved, That we cherish a sincere regard for its venerable President — for the rare qualifications he possesses for the high office he has so long and so ably filled ; but that we deeply regret that its welfare is greatly imperiled by the existence of a popular prejudice against it, arising from the publication and use of some of his peculiar views touching public affairs, thereby, as we believe, tending to embarrass our Government in its present fearful struggle, and to encourage and strengthen the resistance of its enemies in arms.

Resolved, That, in our opinion, it is the duty of the Trustees of the College to seriously inquire whether its interests do not demand a change in its Presidency, and to act according to their best judgment in the premises.

On motion that a Committee be appointed to report what action, if any, ought to be taken thereon, Hon. AMOS TUCK, Rev. NATHANIEL BOUTON, D. D., and Hon. IRA A. EASTMAN were appointed such Committee.

On the 24th of July instant, said Committee made the following Report, which was accepted and adopted by the Trustees:—

The Committee, to whom was referred the resolutions of the Merrimack County Conference, respecting Dartmouth College, make the following

R E P O R T :

The Committee have taken into most respectful consideration the action of the Conference, and the sentiment pervading the Churches, of which the resolutions of the Conference are the expression. We do not forget, but thankfully avow the debt of gratitude which has rested upon the College, throughout its history, to the Churches of New-England, and to the pious teachings and generous patronage of those included within their embrace. We are fully aware of the obligations of science and literature, in all past time, to the clerical profession; that the countenance and support of the Clergy and the Churches have ever been the chief reliance of this College, and that we can hope for little prosperity or usefulness to the Institution in future, without meriting the confidence bestowed upon it in the past. We deplore the present

condition of the College, in respect to the sentiments entertained toward it, as expressed in said resolutions, and we profess our readiness to do any act which our intimate knowledge of its affairs and circumstances enable us to judge practicable and beneficial. Neither the Trustees nor the Faculty coincide with the President of the College in the views which he has published touching slavery and the war, and it has been their hope that the College would not be adjudged a partisan institution by reason of such publications. It has been our purpose that no act of ours should contribute to such an impression upon the public mind, inviting, as we do, all classes of our fellow-citizens to contribute to its support, and to partake of its privileges.

It would be impracticable, if it were wise, to embody in this report all the reasons which induce us to propose no action by which the removal of the President from the head of the institution should be undertaken by the Trustees, and we bespeak with confidence the favorable judgment that we act discreetly, from the members of the Conference who have expressed in their resolutions their generous appreciation of the eminent ability and qualifications of the President for the position which he occupies.

Yet the Committee do not fail to see that the present crisis in the country is no ordinary conflict between opposing parties, but is a struggle between the Gov-

ernment on one side and its enemies on the other, and that in it are involved vital issues, not only respecting science and learning, virtue and religion, but also respecting all the social and civil blessings growing out of free institutions.

The Committee recommend that the Resolutions of the Merrimack County Conference, this Report and the accompanying Resolutions, be published in pamphlet form, and that the Treasurer be directed to cause the same to be circulated among the members of said Conference, and other persons, according to his discretion.

AMOS TUCK,
N. BOUTON.

Hanover, July 24, 1863.

The Trustees of Dartmouth College, impressed with the magnitude of the crisis now existing in public affairs, and with the vital consequences which the issue of current events will bring to the nation and the world; and considering that it is the duty of literary institutions and the men who control them to stand in no doubtful position when the Government of the country struggles for existence, inscribe upon their records, and promulgate the following resolutions:

First, We recognize and acknowledge with grateful pride the heroic sacrifices and valiant deeds of many of the sons of Dartmouth, in their endeavors to defend and sustain the Government against the

present wicked and remorseless rebellion; and we announce to the living, now on the battle-field, to the sick and the maimed in the hospitals and among their friends, and to the relatives of such of them as have fallen in defense of their country, that Dartmouth College rejoices to do them honor, and will inscribe their names and their brave deeds upon her most enduring records.

Second, We commend the cause of our beloved country to all the Alumni of this Institution; and we invoke from them, and pledge our own most efficient and cordial support, and that of Dartmouth College, to the Government, which is the only power by which the rebellion can be subdued. We hail with joy, and with grateful acknowledgements to the God of our fathers, the cheering hope that the dark cloud which has heretofore obscured the vision and depressed the hearts of patriots and statesmen, in all attempts to scan the future, may in time disappear entirely from our horizon, and that American slavery, with all its sin and shame, and the alienations, jealousies and hostilities between the people of different sections, of which it has been the fruitful source, may find its merited doom in consequence of the war which it has evoked.

Third, The Trustees bespeak for the College in the future the same cordial support and patronage of the Clergy and the Churches of New-England, as well as other friends of sound learning, which they have

given to it in time past, reminding them of the obligations which the cause of education, science and religion seem to lay upon them, to stand by this venerable Institution, in evil report and in good report, in view of its past history and great service to the church and state, entertaining an abiding faith that it will triumph over all obstacles, and go down to posterity with its powers of usefulness unimpaired.

[After the vote had been taken by the Board of Trustees, adopting the foregoing Report and Resolutions, Dr. LORD resigned his position, both as President, and one of the Trustees of the College.]